

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST CONTINUATION SHEET  
U.S. 301 SOUTH CORRIDOR TRANSPORTATION STUDY

Property Name: T.B. "Colored" School #1  
Survey No.: PG: 85A-26 (PACS B74)

Property Address 14000 Crain Highway, Brandywine, Prince George's County  
Owner Name/Address Brandywine Sales and Service, 14000 Crain Highway, Brandywine, MD 20613  
Year Built 1926

**Description:**

The T.B. "Colored" School #1 was previously surveyed by the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission. Since the time of the previous surveys, the property is unaltered.

**National Register Evaluation:**

The T.B. "Colored" School is an important site in the history of Black education in Prince George's County, and is therefore, eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. Constructed in 1926, the T.B. School served as a two-room schoolhouse for African-American children until 1952, at the time of school desegregation. Historic research indicates that the property has no association with persons who have made specific contributions to history, and therefore, it does not meet Criterion B. In addition, the property does not meet Criterion C, as the re-use of the building as a business has resulted in considerable alteration of the structure's appearance. Its integrity of materials has been compromised and its setting has been altered by the growth of the U.S. 301/MD 5 corridors. Finally, the property has no known potential to yield important information, and therefore, is not eligible under Criterion D.

**Verbal Boundary Description and Justification:**

The National Register boundaries of the T.B. "Colored" School follow the current property lines of Parcel 169 on Prince George's County Tax Map 145. This parcel is bounded on the north and west by U.S. 301, on the south by Short Cut Road, and on the east by Brandywine Road (MD 381). The boundary includes the schoolhouse and the current surrounding tax parcel of approximately .18 hectares (.45 acres). The school was originally situated on a .8 hectare (2 acre) parcel, however the building was auctioned in 1952. When purchased by the current owners in the 1960s, it was converted to commercial usage. The current parcel size is smaller than the original, however, the surrounding acreage is now an automobile salvage yard and business.

**MHT CONCURRENCE:**

Eligibility ☒ recommended ☐ not recommended

Criteria ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D Considerations ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G ☐ None

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

*Alan Ponder*

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services Date

*12/2/98*

*B. Kuntz*

Reviewer, NR program Date

*12/18/98*

Date

Preparer:

P.A.C. Spero & Company  
September 1996

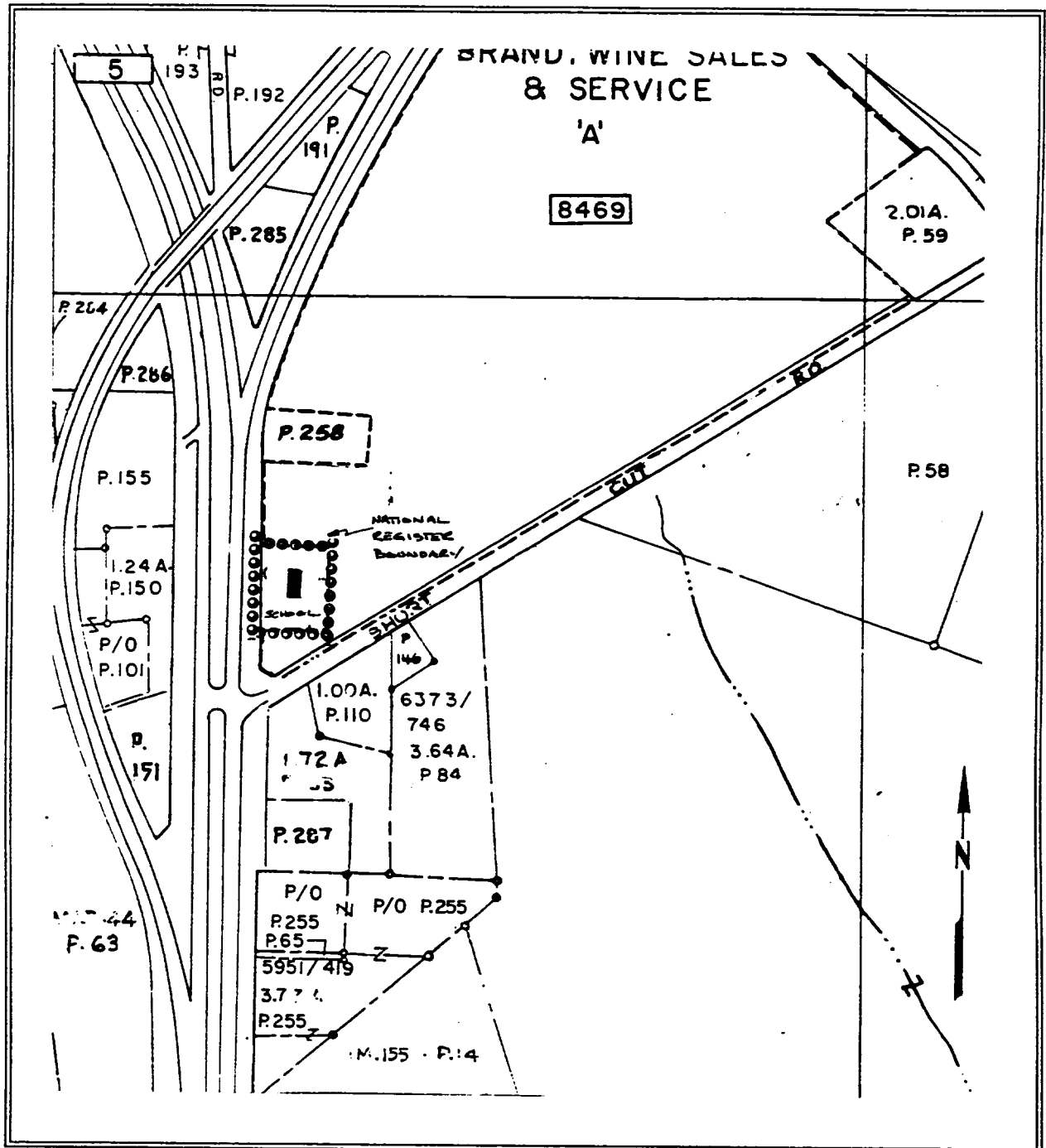
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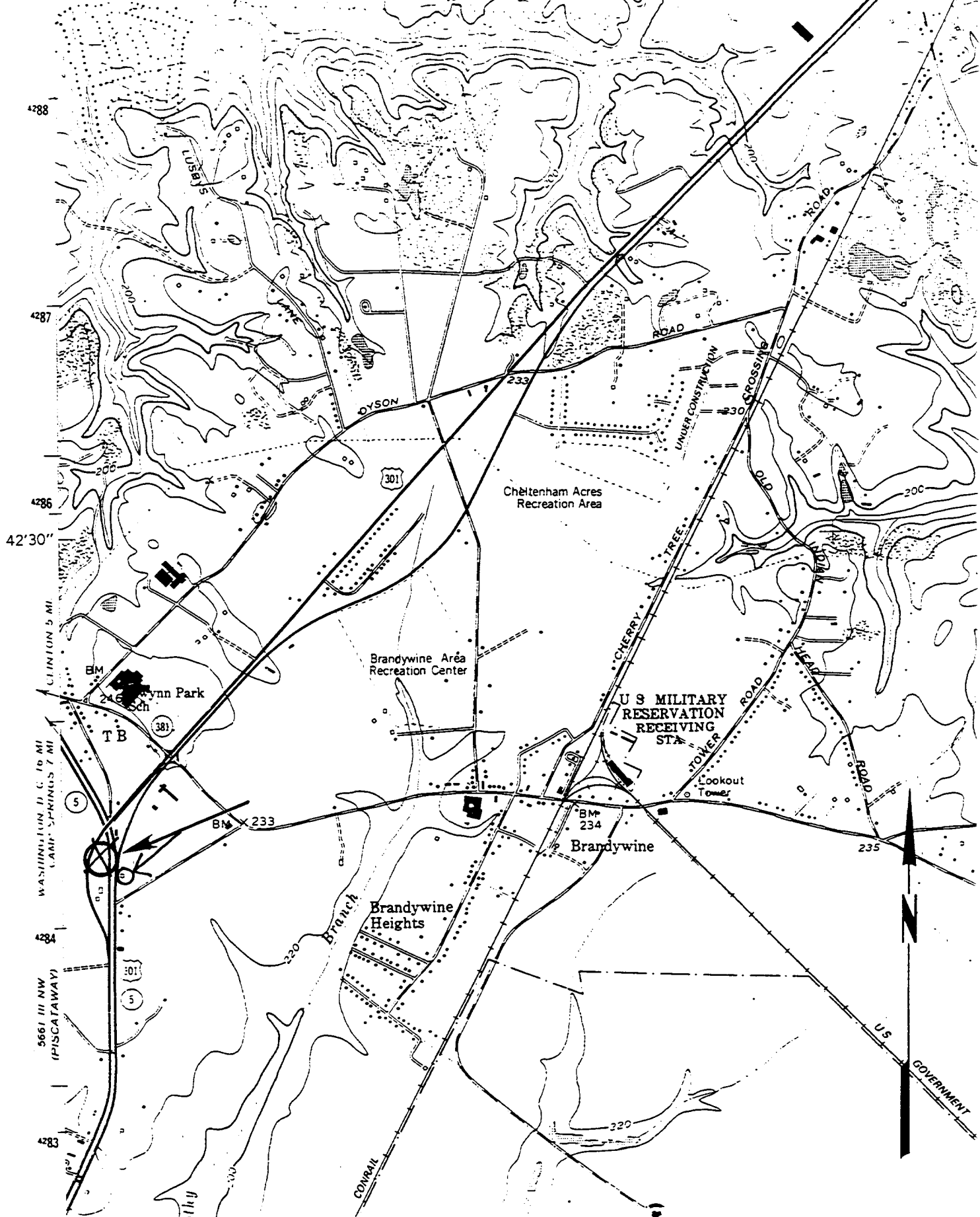
Year Built 1926

Resource Sketch Map and National Register Boundary Map:



U.S. 301 South Corridor  
Transportation Study

Survey # B74 PG: 85A-26  
Property Name T.B. "COLORED" SCHOOL #1  
Town/County BRANDYWINE Prince Georges Co.  
Quadrangle Brandywine







P.G. #85A-26

1926

T.B. "Colored" School (#1)

14000 Crain Highway, Brandywine, Md.

Priv/Occ/Commerc/Excellent

The T.B. Black elementary school was originally one of the larger two-room schools of the 1920's and was similar to the Bowie School (cf. #71B-10). It has in recent years been remodeled with a new roof and synthetic siding, and significant changes in fenestration. Now it is a four-bay hip-roofed building with a projecting room in the second bay of the west (main) facade; the first bay on this west facade has been converted into a full-length glass double door, sheltered by a low shed-roof porch.

The first school for Black children in T.B. was operating by 1872 a short distance south of Union Bethel A.M.E. Church. By 1920, the Board of Education made the decision to build a new school; in that year and in 1925, the Board purchased two adjoining one-acre lots, and awarded the contract to Linthicum and Linthicum to prepare plans for "colored" schools in Laurel, Lakeland, Bowie, T.B. and Westwood. The T.B. school was opened in 1926, with two large classrooms, a central supply closet and two projecting cloakrooms. The construction of the five schools was financed by the Rosenwald fund, with matching contributions from the local Black community. The T.B. school operated until the eve of school desegregation, was auctioned in 1952, and in the late 1960's was remodeled into a sales office for the Brandywine Sales and Service Company. It is scarcely recognizable as the former schoolhouse, but is an important example of adaptive reuse of one of Prince George's County's landmarks in the history of Black education.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## State Historic Sites Inventory Form

### 1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic T. B. Eleventh District "Colored" School #1

and/or common

### 2. Location

street & number 14000 Crain Highway ☐ not for publication

city, town Brandywine ☐ vicinity of T.B congressional district 4

state Maryland county P.G.

### 3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational	<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

### 4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Walter Meinhardt (Brandywine Sales and Service)

street & number 14000 Crain Highway telephone no.:

city, town Brandywine state and zip code MD. 20613

### 5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. P. G. County Courthouse liber 3615

street & number Main Street folio 708

city, town Upper Marlboro state Md.

### 6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title None

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. P.G. 85A-26

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Tee Bee Black elementary school is a one-story frame hip-roofed building. It is four bays wide, with a projecting room in the second bay of the west (main) facade. There is a new (lower) shed-roof addition attached to the rear (east) facade. The building has been remodeled with new roof and synthetic siding, and significant changes in fenestration. The first bay on the main west facade has been converted into a full-length glass double door, sheltered by a low shed-roof porch.

The appearance of the Tee Bee school has been greatly altered by recent remodelling. Originally, it was very similar to the Bowie school built in the same year: two large classrooms, with recessed entryway centered between two small projecting cloakrooms. The entryway led directly into a central supply closet between the two classrooms; side doors leading from the entryway led into the two classrooms. The southmost projecting cloakroom has been removed, leaving an asymmetric projection in the second bay of the west facade.



## 8. Significance

Survey No.P.G. 85A-26

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify) Black History

Specific dates 1926 Builder/Architect Linthicum and Linthicum

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The first elementary school for Black children in Tee Bee was a short distance south of Union Bethel African Methodist Church (see P.G. #85A-18) and was already operating by 1872. This schoolhouse was probably a very simple one-room structure like the others of that period, and served the Black children of the Tee Bee area until the 1920's.

In April of 1920, the Board of Education acquired by tax sale a one-acre lot of land on the east side of the Washington-La Plata Road in Tee Bee, a lot which had for twelve years been the property of the United Order of True Reformers Lodge. The school was not built, however, until after the Board purchased a second one-acre lot, adjoining on the east, and in September of 1925 awarded the contract for preparing the school plans to the firm of Linthicum and Linthicum. (This firm was to prepare similar plans for "colored" schools in Laurel, Lakeland, Bowie and Westwood). The new school, which opened in 1926, consisted of two fairly large classrooms, with a central supply closet and two projecting cloak-rooms. The construction was funded, as were the other four schools, by the Rosenwald Fund, with matching contributions from the local Black community.

The Tee Bee "Rosenwald" school continued to operate until the eve of school desegregation. It was auctioned, along with several other Black schoolhouses, in 1952, and in the late 1960's was remodeled into a sales office for the Brandywine Sales and Service Company. As such, it is scarcely recognizable as the former schoolhouse, but is another example of adaptive reuse of one of Prince George's County's landmarks in the history of Black education.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G.85A-26

P.G. County Deeds: #3615:708; #1527:314; #256:451; #158:36; #44:247  
Interview with Thomas S. Gwynn, Jr., former Ass't Sup't of Schools,  
Journal of Board of Education 1921 - 1940 Vol. III  
Archives, P.G. Co. Schools, Plant Maintenance Dept., Upper Marlboro

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Susan G. Pearl

organization History Division, M-NCPPC

date May 1983

street &amp; number 4811 Riverdale Road

telephone 779-2011

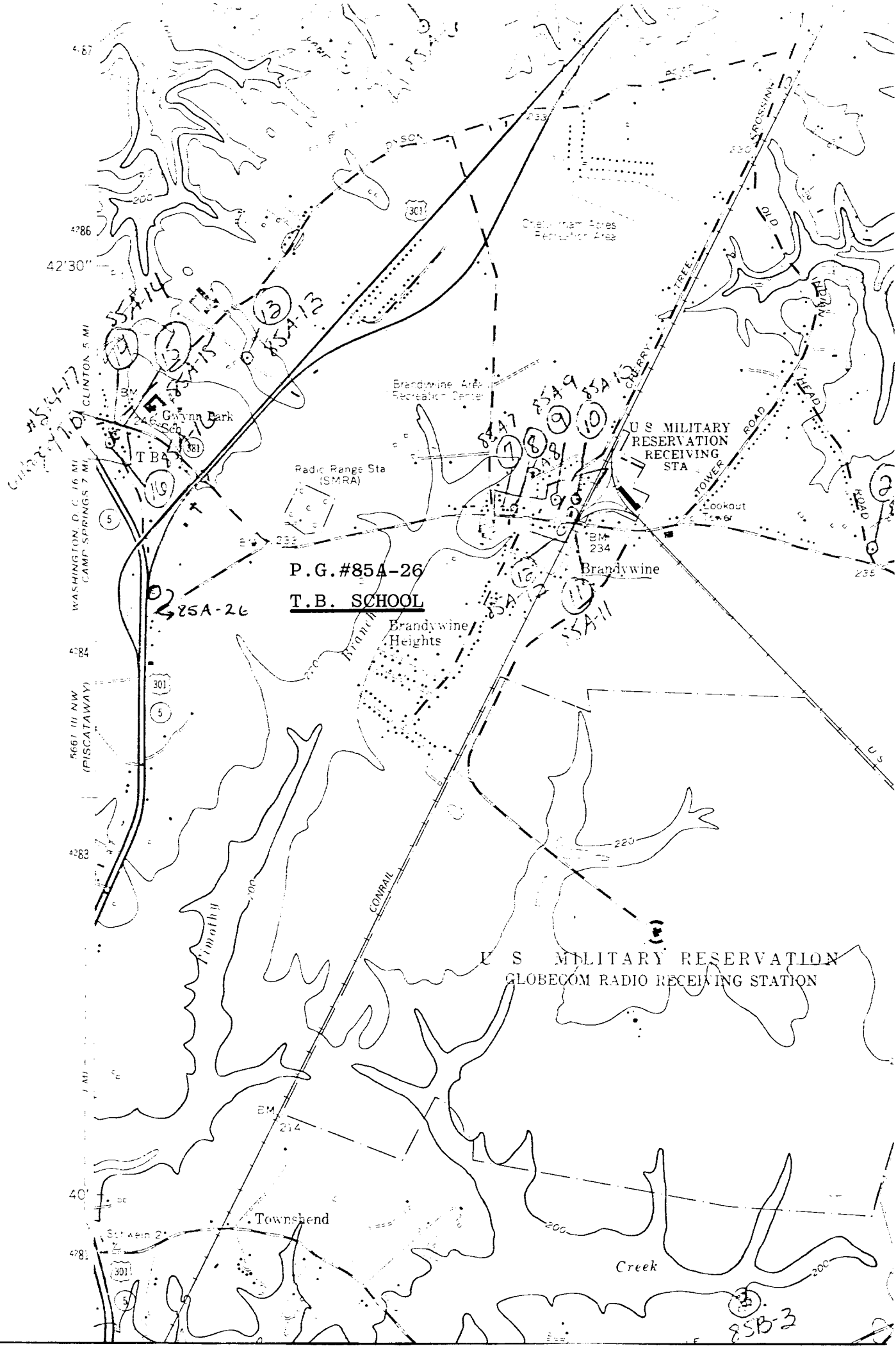
city or town Riverdale

state Maryland 20737

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by  
an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated  
Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and  
record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of  
individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438





P. G. #85A-26

T. B. (Rosenwald) School  
Prince George's County, Md.  
Susan G. Pearl  
April 1983  
Southwest 3/4 elevation  
Neg: Md. Hist. Trust, Annapolis, Md.